

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Pacifico et al. Examiner: S. Acquah  
Patent No.: 6,251,478 B1 Group Art Unit: 1711  
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Filed: Herewith Dated: November 29, 2001  
For: SENSITIVE SUBSTANCE  
ENCAPSULATION

Box Reissue  
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**AMENDMENT TO THE REISSUE APPLICATION**

Sir:

Please add Claims 21-34 to the above-identified reissue application as follows:

Claim 21. A method of encapsulating a sensitive material comprising:

introducing the sensitive material into an encapsulation vessel, wherein the  
atmosphere in the encapsulation vessel is inert to the sensitive material; and  
encapsulating the sensitive material.

Claim 22. A method according to Claim 21 wherein the encapsulating comprises  
spraying a coating into the encapsulation vessel.

Claim 23. A method according to Claim 21 wherein the sensitive material is lyophilized  
before introduced into the encapsulation vessel.

Claim 24. The method of Claim 21 wherein the atmosphere inert to the sensitive material is nitrogen, carbon dioxide, or helium.

Claim 25. The method of Claim 21 wherein the atmosphere inert to the sensitive material is oxygen-free.

Claim 26. The method of Claim 21 wherein the percentage of encapsulant in the resulting encapsulated sensitive material is between about 10 to about 90%.

Claim 27. The method of Claim 26 wherein the percentage of encapsulant in the resulting encapsulated sensitive material is between about 20 to about 80%.

Claim 28. The method of Claim 21 wherein the sensitive material is a volatile material.

Claim 29. The method of Claim 21 wherein the sensitive material has a boiling point of between about 40° F and 250° F.

Claim 30. The method of Claim 21 wherein the sensitive material is an oxygen sensitive material.

Claim 31. The method of Claim 21 wherein the sensitive material is a biologically active substance.

Claim 32. The method of Claim 31 wherein the biologically active substance is selected from the group consisting of Lactobacilli, Bifidobacterium, Enterococci phytase, amylases, lipases, invertases, transglutaminases, proteases, lipoxxygenases and pentosanases.

Claim 33. The method of Claim 32 wherein the biologically active substance is Lactobacillus acidophilus.

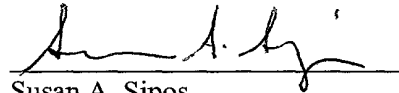
Claim 34. The method of Claim 21 wherein the sensitive material is at least one selected from the group consisting of alcohols, acetones, ketones, aldehydes, organic acids, and antioxidants.

**Status of Claims and Support for Claim Changes under 37 C.F.R. §1.173.**

Claims 21-34 have been added by the present Amendment. Accordingly, Claims 1-34 are pending in the above-identified reissue application.

Support for the new Claims 21-34 is found throughout the specification of U.S. Patent No. 6,251,478 B1, including Columns 5, Line 61, to Column 6, Line 13. No new matter has been added.

Respectfully submitted,



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